



ANNUAL



ALL-STAR SQUADRON

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



PRESENTING:
THE GREATEST HEROES OF
EARTH-TWO, BANNED
TOGETHER DURING THE
SECOND WORLD WAR
AS THE...



THE THREE FACES OF EVIL!

THIS WAS A
GREAT IDEA
OF YOURS,
PRINCESS!

WITH YOU, FLAGA,
AND ME ON THE
BILL, THIS WAR
BOND CIRCUIS
SHOULD RAISE
PLENTY OF CASH
FOR UNCLE SAM.

I'M SORRY ABOUT
DRAGGING YOU BOYS TO
NEW YORK ON SUCH SHORT
NOTICE, GREEN LANTERN.

AFTER ALL, WE'D
ONLY MET ONCE
BEFORE—LAST
MONTH, WHEN THE
ALL-STAR SQUADRON
WAS FOUNDED.

"The fault, dear Brutus,
is not in our stars,
but in ourselves..."
--William Shakespeare

THE FIRST, WE HOPE, OF MANY
ALL-STAR ANNUALS BY THE
TITANIC TEAM OF:

ROY THOMAS & **ADRIAN GONZALES** & **JERRY ORDWAY**
writer artists

CHARL GIFFORD, colorist
JOHN COBURNKA, letterer

LEN WEIN, editor

ANYTHING TO
HELP OUT,
WONDER
WOMAN.

OF COURSE, A BIT
LESS TALK AND A BIT
MORE FEELINGS BY YOU
TWO WOULDN'T HURT
ANY, EITHER!

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A Warner Communications Company

BELOW, THE CROWD OF CIVILIANS AND SERVICEMEN IS WATCHING IT UP...

SEE, MA? I TOLD YOU FLASH AND GREEN LANTERN WERE THE GREATEST!

LOOKS TO ME LIKE WONDER WOMAN'S HOLDING BOTH OF 'EM UP!

STILL, IT'S KIND-OF A TRAP-- COMPARED TO A WAR GOING ON AND ALL--!

HEAR THAT, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS?

THANKS TO YOUR POWER RINGS, WE DID.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME TO GO SHOW BIZ, FOR A HEARTY CAUSE!

FROM THE STUNDS, NO SPECTATOR CAN SEE THE EMERALD GLADIATOR'S BROWN RUBBON, EVER SO SLIGHTLY.

THEY CAN ONLY SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT, AS--

SNAPP!

TH--THE ROPE BROKE! THEY'RE FALLING!

SEEMS LIKE CHEATING, SOMEHOW.

I KIND-OF HATED TO DO THAT, YOU KNOW?

REMEMBER, LANTERN, WE THREW IT SO I'D CATCH THE FLASH--

--TOO FAST FOR ANYBODY TO HAVE A HEART ATTACK OVER IT!

I KNOW--AND THE TRAPEZE I'M FORMING WILL BREAK MY FALL.

WHILE MY MAGIC LASSO WILL KEEP FLASH AND ME FROM HITTING THE SAW-DUST TRAIL-- LITERALLY.

--AND FINISH! THE THREE OF US HAVE TURNED INTO AN HONEST-TO-HELLOS ACROBATIC ACT, BEFORE ANYBODY'S HAD TIME TO SAY "WRESTLE TV!"

READY, MR. L.!

READY, MR. F.!

NOW, I WHIP A FAST CROSS-BAR OUT OF MY SHIRT--

LADDEEEER AND GENTLE-MEN--



OUR THREE ALL-STAR SQUADRON GUESTS HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED THEIR LITTLE DASH-DEFYING JEST AT YOUR EXPENSE, ON BEHALF OF OUR WAR BOND DRIVE!

AND NOW FOR THEIR NEXT FANTASTIC FEAT OF AERIAL DYNAMICS--



THE TRIPLE BOMBER-SAULT, AS EVERYONE KNOWS, IS ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT AND DANGEROUS OF AEROBATIC STUNTS!

NOT FOR THE FLASH IT AIN'T!

PHOTO-NEWSMAN TUBBY WATTS OUGHT TO KNOW... SINCE HE'S A CONFIDANT OF JOHNNY CHAMBERS, ALIAS JOHNNY QUICK.



WHAT THEY DON'T KNOW IS, THE FLASH COULD DO A HUNDRED SOMER-SAULTS IN THAT TIME...



THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE WILL NOW DEFEND HIS TITLE-- BY DOING NO LESS THAN TEN SOMERSAULTS, BEFORE BEING CAUGHT BY THE GREEN LANTERN!

SILENCE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!

T-TEN? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE-- AIN'T IT?

SHHH, HERBIE...



TO THE SUPER-FAST JAY GARRICK, IT SEEMS AS IF HE TAKES HIS AERIAL CARTWHEELS IN SLOW MOTION-- TO BE CERTAIN THE GROUND GUTS ITS MONEY'S WORTH.

THIN, JUST AS HE COMES OUT OF HIS TENTH AND FINAL SPIN--

OWWW! THAT LIGHT-- WHERE'D IT COME FROM??

IT'S LIKE A THOUSAND FLASHBULBS! CAN'T SEE A THING--



AND FRANKLY, NEITHER CAN THE SCARLET SPEED-STER, AS --

FLASH! GRAB HOLD!

WHERE??

TOO LATE-- FALLING--!



FAR BENEATH, MEN AND WOMEN STORM BLIND EYES UPWARD -- UNABLE TO SEE, YET HOPEING AGAINST HOPE THAT SOMETHING WILL AVERT THE CALAMITY THEY FEAR.

D-DON'T LOOK, BOBBY!

AS IT HAPPENS
SOMETHING
WILL--NAMESLY,
THE FLASH
HIMSELF!



GOT TO
CREATE
UPDRAFTS
AT ULTRA-
SPEED...

...SO I CAN
FLY TO
EARTH, LIKE
A LEAF IN A
SLIGHT
BREEZE!



AS THE FIRST SEN-
SATIONS OF SIGHT
RETURN TO THE
GATHERED THINGS,
HOWEVER, THEY'RE
IN NO MOOD TO
APPRECIATE HIS
PROMISES!



HE'S SAFE!
IT WAS
ALL ANOTHER
TRICK!

SOME
JOKER!

THE FLASH WAS
NEARLY KILLED--
AND THE CROWD'S
JUST GOING
SURELY!

THAT'LL
TEACH US TO
CRY WOLF!



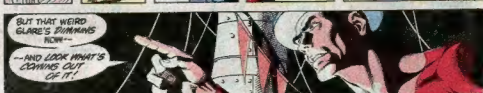
WRENS,
LANTERN! IT'S
ONLY YOUR
FIRST
LESSON.

OTHERS ARE
STILL IN THE
DARKNESS, AS...

YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'D HAVE
LASED YOU, BUT
THAT
SUDDEN
LIGHT--

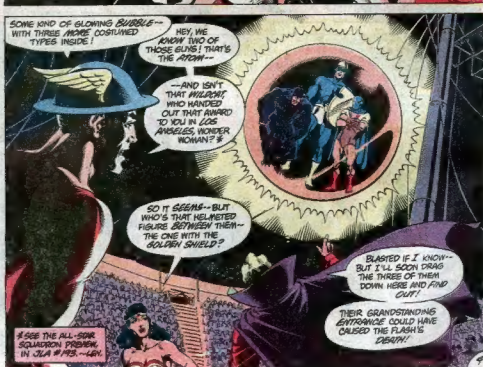


I'M
FINE.



BUT THAT WEIRD
GLARE'S DIMMING
NOW--

--AND LOOK WHAT'S
COMING OUT
OF IT!



SOME KIND OF GLOWING BUBBLE--
WITH THREE MORE COSTUMED
TYPES INSIDE!

HEY, WE
KNOW TWO OF
THOSE GUNS! THAT'S
THE ARMY--

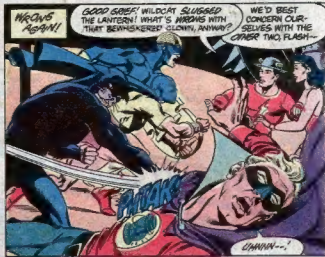
--AND ISN'T
THAT NIGHT
WHO HANDED
OUT THAT AWARD
TO YOU IN LOS
ANGELES, WONDER
WOMAN? *

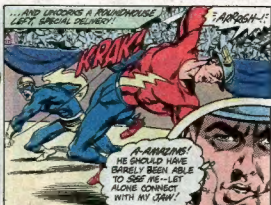
SO IT SEEMS--BUT
WHO'S THAT HELMETED
FIGURE BETWEEN THEM--
THE ONE WITH THE
GOLDEN SHIELD?

BLASTED IF I KNOW--
BUT I'LL SOON DRAG
THE THREE OF THEM
DOWN HERE AND FIND
OUT!

THEIR GRANDSTANDING
ENTRANCE COULD HAVE
CAUSED THE FLASH'S
DEATH!

* SEE THE ALL-STAR
SQUADRON PREVIEW
IN JLA #193.--LBY.







WILDCAT, I'M GOING TO FORGET ABOUT MY SORE JAW, AND THE TEMPTATION TO KNOCK YOU INTO THE NEAREST LITTER BOX...

...BUT I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LAY HANDS ON YOU, JUST THE SAME!

WHAT THE UNSPEAKING FELINE FIERY MAY OR MAY NOT UNDERSTAND AT THIS MOMENT IS A MATTER KNOWN ONLY TO HIMSELF--



YET, AS THE POWERFUL JADE-COLORED FINGERS CLOSE ABOUT HIM--

--HE SLOUGHS THEM OFF LIKE A CAT SHEDDING WATER--



--THEN LASHES OUT WITH PANTHERISH KICKS!

I--I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

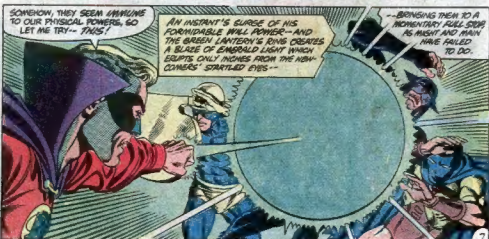
HE PASTED ME ONE AGAIN!



OKAY, OLIMS--NOW WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO MAKE YOU HOLLER UNCLE.

IF WE CAN!

NO-- WAIT! LET ME TRY ONE LAST PLOT!



SOMEHOW, THEY SEEM IMMUNE TO OUR PHYSICAL POWERS, SO LET ME TRY-- THIS!

AN INSTANT'S SURGE OF HIS FORMIDABLE WILL POWER--AND THE GREEN LANTERN'S RING CREATES A BLAZE OF EMERALD LIGHT WHICH ERUPTS ONLY INCHES FROM THE NON-COMERS' STARTLED EYES--

--BRINGING THEM TO A MOMENTARY FULL STOP AS MIGHT AND MAIN HAVE FAILED TO DO.

THEN, AS THE GREEN LIGHT
JUST AS SWIFTLY FIDES--
STILL FULL OF FIGHT, EH?
I FEEL A STALEMATE
COMING UP, BUT I
MUST TRY TO--



HOLA! NOW
YOU'RE FAR
WEAKER
THAN I AM!

SO WHAT
ELSE IS NEW,
AMAZON?
PUT ME DOWN,
WILLYA--



--AND TELL
ME WHERE
THE HECK I
AM!

WHAT??

NOT ONLY
THAT--BUT
WHO'S THIS
PAIR?

ARE YOU THE REAL AMON, SHORTY
--OR JUST A MUNCHKIN IN DIS-
GUISE?

I DON'T KNOW
ANY OF YOU
PEOPLE!



HUH? YOU THREE JUST ATTACKED
US TOGETHER--AND NOW YOU ACT
LIKE PERFECT STRANGERS!?

JUST
THEN--

GREAT SHOW--AND I
GOT IT ALL ON FILM!

BOY, I WISH
JOHNNY WAS
HERE!

I'M GONNA BUY
A BUSLOAD OF BONDS!
LENNIE THROUGH!

UH-OH! THE
NATIVES ARE
GETTING
RESTLESS.



LANTERN...?

I KNOW, FLASH--TIME
TO LET THE REAL BOND-
SELLERS TAKE OVER.



NO HARM
IN LETTING
THE CROWD
THINK OUR
LITTLE FREE-
FOR-ALL
WAS A PUT-
ON...

BUT,
SINCE WE
SIX KNOW
GOOD AND
WELL IT
WASN'T...



...MAYBE WE'D
BETTER GO SOME-
WHERE WE CAN
TALK ABOUT IT...



...WITHOUT BEING
INTERRUPTED!

HEAR! THOSE
ALL-STAR GUYS
OUGHTA HEAD
STRAIGHT FOR
HOLLYWOOD!

I'D HAVE
SWORE THAT WAS
A REAL FIGHT--
IF I DIDN'T KNOW
BETTER!



SECRET ORIGINS

I KNOW IT'LL BE HARD TO TALK **ARREBY**, SINCE MOST OF US ARE PRETTY **NEW** AT THIS "COSTUMED **NERD**" THING, AND MOST OF US **BARELY** KNOW EACH OTHER...

BUT WE'D BETTER FIGURE OUT WHAT **HAPPENED** UNDER THAT BIG TOP TONIGHT--FOR ALL OUR SALES!

WHAT ABOUT **MR. STRINGS-AND-SILENT** OVER HERE BEHIND THE **SHIELD**?

HE **HASN'T** TOLD US SO MUCH AS THE **NAME** HE GOES BY.

"**GREEN LANTERN**"... "**FLASH**"... "**WILDCAT**"... YOU CALL **THOSE** NAMES?

SOUNDS TO **ME** LIKE THE **WANT-LIST** FOR A **SCAVENGER HUNT**.

I'LL **ARRS** FOR NOW--AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, YOU CAN **DROP** ME OFF AT THE **NEAREST SUBWAY STOP**.

NO NEED TO GET ALL IN AN **UPPER**, **CHROME-DOME**.

LOOK, IF IT'LL **MAKE** EVERYBODY **FEEL** ANY **EASIER**...

...I CAN USE MY **ARMER** **ARMS** TO **HYPNOTIZE** EVERYONE INTO **FORGETTING** ANY **SECRET IDENTITIES** THEY LEARN HERE TONIGHT.

BUT WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS **CONTROLLING** YOU THREE--WHY YOU **ATTACKED** THE REST OF US.

ATOM, MAYBE IF YOU **STARTED** THE **BALL ROLLING**...

I'M A **BIG BOY**, **LANTERN**. I DON'T **REMEMBER** **SLUGGING** YOU TONIGHT...

BUT SINCE YOU'RE THE **ONE** **ASKIN**, I'LL **START**:

"**YEARS** AGO, MY **OLD MARY** **OWNED** OVER MY **BABY-CRIB** THAT I **WOULDN'T** **GROW UP** **AFRAID** OF **LIFE**--AND **HENRY GRANT** **KEEY** HIS **WORD**.

"HE **EN-COURAGED** ME AT **SPORTS**.

"MY **FOLKS'** **DEATH** **SNARFLED** THAT, AND I **WOUND UP** IN THE **BIG CITY**, **LOOKING** FOR A **JOB--ANY JOB--**IN THE **MIDDLE** OF THE **DEPRESSION**.

"MY **WHOLE** **LIFE** **CHANGED**, **THOUGH**--

"HE **SAW** TO IT I **HAD** **GREAT COACHING**--**ESPECIALLY** WHEN I **GET TO COLLEGE**.

"THE **THING** I **WAS** **BEST** AT, **THOUGH**, **WAS** **BOXING**--**ONLY** I **HAD** MY **EYES** **SET** ON **BEIN' A DOCTOR**, **AIN'T** THAT A **LAUGH**?

"THE **NIGHT** I **WADED** IN TO **HELP** **SOCKER SMITH**, THE **HEAVYWEIGHT** **BOXING** **CHAMP**, **FIGHT** OFF A **COUPLE** OF **ROBBERS**."

SAY, **KID**, YOU **SURE** CAN **HANDLE** OUR **DUKES**!

"SOCKER TOOK ME UNDER HIS WING AT MULLAWAY'S CUM, AN' I DON'T MIND ADMITTIN I WAS PROBABLY GREATER SHAKES AT RIGHTIN' THAN I'D EVER HAD BEEN WITH A STETHOSCOPE."

SPORTS NEWS 28
GRANT TAKES HIM ON!
GRANT BY KAYD IN 5%
GRANT BY TWO

NO USE GOIN' INTO THE WHOLE STORY NOW 'S--BUT BEFORE TOO LONG I WOUND UP IN A TITLE MATCH WITH SOCKER HIMSELF-- AND WHEN HE DIED IN THE RING, THE COPS THOUGHT I'D MURDERED HIM

"I'D BEEN SET UP BY SOCKER'S CROOKED MANAGERS-- AND NEXT THING I KNEW, TED GRANT WAS ON THE LOSE-- A WANTED MAN!"

"THAT'S WHEN I HEARD A KID TALKIN' ABOUT XEL, GREEN LANTERN--AN' ALLUM SUDEN I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO!"

\$555 SENSATION COMES #1, MAR., OR SECRET ORIGIN #3, 1973 --LEN

BEFORE LONG, THE MANAGERS CONFERRED-- JUST TO KEEP A CLAWIN' COSTUMED WILDCAT OFF THEIR BACKS!"

HOLD ON A MINUTE THERE, WHISKERS!

ARE YOU TELLING US THE WILDCAT WHO APPEARED ON THE CRIME-BUSTING SCENE A FEW MONTHS BACK--

--IS REALLY THE TED GRANT, THE HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMP OF NEW YORK STATE?

OF THE WORLD--SOON AS I CAN GET A MATCH WITH JOE LOUIS!

ANYWAY, THAT BRINGS US UP TO TONIGHT..

"I WAS FROWLIN' THE CITY MORNIN' TO FIND SOME ANGEL SOLES TO BEAT UP ON-- MAYBE A COUPLE OF WOULD-BE BRIDGE-BLOWERS, Y'KNOW?"

"BUT WHAT THE HEY! A GUY'S GOTTA KEEP IN PRACTICE, RIGHT?"

"ALL I SPOTTED, THOUGH, WAS A COUPLE OF PENN-ANTE STICK-UP MEN, PUTTIN' THE ARM ON SOME FAT CAT"

"I DON'T ALWAYS
USE JUST MY FISTS
WHEN I'M BATTLIN'
HOODS. BY THE WAY



"I TRY TO ADD MY
STYLE--SO NOBODY
BRUISES ON WHO
I AM.



"ANYHOW, IT WAS
NO CONTEST--
AND I'D FINISHED
'EM BOTH OFF
BEFORE I NOTICED
A FUNNY LIGHT
FROM BEHIND ME.



"IT WAS A BIG, GLOWIN'
BUBBLE--LIKE THE ONE YOU
ALL-STAR GUYS SAY YOU
GAIN ME IN.



"--WHEN IT
SUDDENLY
TOOK THINGS
OUTTA MY
HANDS!



"IT JUST
PULLED
ME INTO
IT--



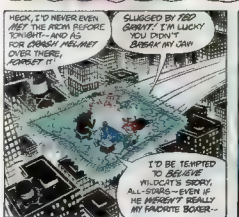
"--LIKE A
FROG
SCOOPIN'
IN A FLY."



"FAR AS I KNOW, THOSE HOLD-UP GUYS ARE STILL LYIN'
IN THAT ALLEY, UNLESS THE GUY I HELPED HAD SENSE
ENOUGH TO CALL THE COPS--WHICH I DOUBT.



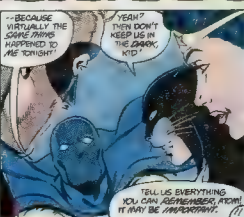
"ME I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHINGS AFTER
THAT, TILL THAT BRIGHT GREEN FLASH WHEN
YOUR RINGS BLAZED UP, LANTERN--



HECK, I'D NEVER EVEN
MET THE ARON BEFORE
TONIGHT--AND AS
FOR CRASH NEWMET
OVER THERE,
FORGET IT!

SLUGGED BY TED
GABBY. I'M LUCKY
YOU DIDN'T
BREAK MY JAW.

I'D BE TEMPTED TO
BELIEVE
WILDCAT'S STORY,
ALL-STAR--EVEN IF
HE MIGHTN'T REALLY
MY FAVORITE BOXER--



--BECAUSE
VIRTUALLY THE
SAME THING
HAPPENED TO
ME TONIGHT!

YEAH?
THEN DON'T
KEEP US IN
THE DARK,
KID!

TELL US EVERYTHING
YOU CAN REMEMBER, ARON!
IT MAY BE IMPORTANT.

I'LL START WITH MY ORIGIN... DO--AND HOLD LANTERN TO HIS PROMISE TO MAKE CHROME-DOME REAPPEAR IT LATER

"A YEAR OR SO AGO, I WAS WALKING WITH MARY JAMES, A GIRL I'D ALWAYS WANTED TO DATE, WHEN SUDDENLY--"

HEY--WHAT'S THIS?

IT'S A STICK-UP, KID!

OH, AL--DO SOMETHING! HE'LL TAKE MY RING AND WATCH!

MOVE, SQUIRT, AND I'LL STEP ON IT!

UHP--I--I HATE IT!

"LUCKILY, THE ROBBER TOOK OFF WITHOUT HEARTING EITHER OF US, BUT...

YOU SPINELESS LITTLE AMOEBA! I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

BUT MARY--HE MIGHT HAVE KILLED YOU!

"SOME DAYS LATER, I WAS STILL BROODING, WHEN...

SAY, BUB, COULDA SPARE A DIME?

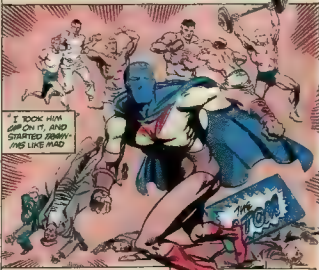
BETTER NOT--I'LL BUY YOU DINNER.

"BUT I SOON LEARNED MY OUT-OF-WORK GUEST HAD ONCE BEEN A FAMOUS FIGHT TRAINER.

GEE, I'VE HEARD OF YOU!

LOTSA PEOPLE DID--ONCE!

"TURNING OUT HE HAD HIT THE SKIDS, WHAT WITH ONE BAD BREAK AND ANOTHER--NOT TO MENTION THE DEPRESSION--BUT HE SAID HE COULD TURN ME INTO A 'LITTLE SUPERMAN' IN LESS THAN A YEAR.



"I TOOK HIM OFF ON IT, AND STARTED TRAINING LIKE MAD

"NEXT TIME I RAN INTO SOME TROUBLE I MADE LIKE CHARLES ATLAS--AND EVEN BEFORE I PUT ON A MASK AND CAPE, I WAS LEAVING MY CALLING CARD ON SOME UNCONSCIOUS CROOKS.

AL ABOUT THE ORIGINAL 98-POUND WEAKLING, HAD BECOME--THE ATOM!

"ALL-AMERICAN COMICS", 9, 1940--LON.

"ANYWAY, EARLIER TONIGHT, I WAS SAYING GOOD-BYE TO THAT SAME MARY JAMES--THOUGH BOTH OF US HAVE GROWN UP A LOT SINCE THAT HOLD-UP IN THE ALLEY.

AND MAYBE IF YOU COULD WRITE ONCE IN A WHILE...

ALL ABOARD!

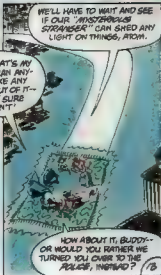
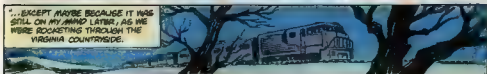


DON'T BE SILLY, AL! I'LL WRITE YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY.

JUST DON'T TRY ANY CRAZY HEROICS OVER THERE--LIKE THAT ATOM GUY I'M ALWAYS TEASING YOU ABOUT, OKAY?

I JUST WANT TO BE A GOOD SOLDIER, MARY.





THAT REMARK'S A LOT MORE ARDENT THAN YOU COULD POSSIBLY KNOW, GREEN LANTERN.

I WILL OPEN UP TO YOU FIVE, NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT

MY PARTICULAR STORY STARTS ABOUT A DECADE AGO, WHEN I WAS A DEAD-END AID WAY BEFORE THEY MADE MOVIES ABOUT SLUM CHILDREN

"THEY CALLED MY PART OF NEW YORK CITY 'SHOOTER SLUM'-- AND NOT EVEN HELL'S KITCHEN WAS BETTER NAMED

DE-BUG PRESSURE
MOOVER
PROOFING
A TWO
AROUND
THE
CORNER

SOMETIMES IT DID SEEM LIKE THE ONLY WAY OUT OF THAT HOLE WAS TO SADD UP YOURSELF

"THAT DIDN'T WORRY MY PAL LEO AND ME BACK THEN, THOUGH

"US, WE HAD OTHER WAYS OF DEALING WITH THE DE-PRESSION

"MOST OF THEM DECIDEDLY ILLEGAL"

SEND YOU LITTLE THIEVES!

BACK THIS WAY--ALREADY!

MOVE IT, LEO!

TH--THE OLD MAN'S GAININ' ON US JIMMY

WE AIN'T--ONCE WE PUT THIS FENCE IN BETWEEN US' C'MON!

I CAN'T MAKE IT YOU GO WITHOUT ME!

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! WE'RE BUDDIES AIN'T WE?

"SOON, LEO AND I WERE HIDING OUT IN AN ABANDONED LENGTH OF PIPE

SHEE-OOT! THANKS, JIMBO! LIFE AIN'T GETTIN' ANY EASIER FOR A COUPLE A CRIMINALS ON THE LODGE, IS IT?

NOT SO'S I'VE NOTICED

YOU BOYS CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT-- IF YOU REALLY WANT TO!

CHEEUT-- A COP!

NOT A COPPER, KIDS-- JUST SOME-BODY WHO WANTS TO FIND OUT IF EITHER OF YOU BOYS IS HEARTY SAVING!

HEY, LEOSSC YA BAG APE!

"LEO GOT ANGRY--BUT THE STRANGER SURE COLLARED ME.

"THE GUY TURNED OUT TO BE AN ALL-AROUND JOE, WHO BELIEVED IN PHYSICAL TRAINING AS A WAY OUT OF THE SLUMS."

"HE SOON FOUND OUT THE THINGS I WAS BEST AT WERE RUNNING, JUMPING-- AND THE DYNAMIC TYPE OF STUFF."

"HE ALWAYS SAID FIRST I'D BE AN OLYMPIC CHAMPION-- THEN HE AND I WOULD MAKE SOME MONEY TOGETHER."

"THEN, ONE DAY A FEW MONTHS AGO, I DROPPED A BOMB ON HIM..."

"SORRY, BUT I CAN'T THINK ABOUT MAKING ANY DOWNS TILL I FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MY PAL LEO."

"BUT, JIM-- IT'S BEEN YEARS--"

"I KNOW-- AND YOU'VE BEEN GREAT TO ME!"

"LOOK, AS SOON AS I FIND LEO-- SOON AS I KNOW HE'S OKAY-- I'LL COME BACK AND WE'LL REALLY CLEAN UP, ALL RIGHT?"

"JIM-- DON'T GO! YOU WERE MY GREAT HOPE! WE WERE GONNA--"

"BUT BARSTON'S GYM WAS ALREADY BEHIND ME."

"I WAS HEADED FOR-- SUICIDE SLUM!"

"I DON'T WANT TO SOUND MODERATE ABOUT IT-- BUT I WAS DETERMINED THAT, JUST AS I HAD MADE IT OUT OF THE GHETTO, SO COULD LEO-- SO COULD ANYBODY WHO FIRST GOT A LITTLE HELP AND THEN HELPED HIMSELF."

"I WENT BACK TO THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE I'D LAST SEEN HIM, RUNNING LIKE HELL, YEARS AGO..."

LEO!

"ARE YOU STILL HERE LEO?"

"IT'S ME-- YOUR OLD PAL JIMMY-- JIM HARPER!"

"IT WAS A DAREY THING TO DO, I KNOW-- A MILLION-TO-ONE SHOT--"

"-- BUT IT PAID OFF!"

"PSS! COOL IT, JIMBO-- YA WANNA GET A GUY KILT?"

LEO?!

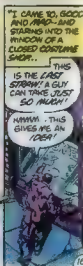
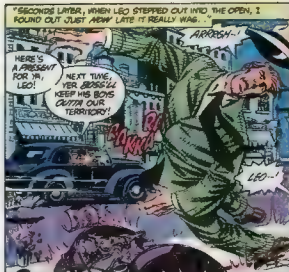
"GET DOWN HERE, OKAY?"

"... YEAH, I'M WITH THE MOB NOW, AN' I CAN GET YOUSE A JOB WITH 'EM, TOO."

"ONLY, JUST NOW, THERE'S THIS LITTLE MATTER OF A POICE ON MY HEAD, 'CAUSE OF A RIVAL GUY I BUMPED OFF OVER 'N JERSEY!"

LEO-- I -

"FROM HIS WORDS, I KNEW IT WAS TOO LATE FOR LEO..."



"I KNOW I SHOULDN'T VE FORCED MY WAY IN, BUT I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO..."



"THIS DORSEY HELMET LOOKS LIKE AN ITEM I CAN USE"



"AND I'LL NEED CLOTHES THAT ALLOW PLENTY OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT."



"THIS SHIELD...IT'S A REAL ANTIQUE, AND PERFECT FOR WHAT I'VE GOT IN MIND!"



"IT WASN'T HARD TO FIND THE AGGERS WHO'D ATTACKED JIM HARPER, IN A NEARBY POOL HALL..."

"...AND I CONFESS IT FELT GOOD TO WADE INTO THEM"



"S AIR-SPANNED COMICS #7, 1942- REPRINTED IN JIMMY OLSEN #91, 971 -- LATE"

"HEY, WHO ARE YOU? AND WHAT'S THE IDEA OF PULLIN' THIS SUPER-HERO STUFF ON US?"

"SUPER-HERO? THERE'S A PHRASE I HAVEN'T HEARD BEFORE"

"I'M A SORT OF GUARDIAN, I GUESS--YES, A GUARDIAN OF SOCIETY, AGAINST YOUR KIND"



"THEN, AS THE WALL OF POLICE SIRENS GREW LOUDER, I MADE A HASTY EXIT"



"WON'DN'T DO FOR A REDDIE COP TO BE CAUGHT TAKING THE LAW INTO HIS OWN HANDS"

"SOMEHOW, I DON'T
THINK YOU'LL HAVE
TROUBLE BELIEVING
WHAT I SAW AS I
ROUNDED A CORNER--

IT'S GETTING
LARGER--
CHASING ME--

THAT
STRANGE
GLOW!
WHAT--?

I'M
CORNERED!

"AT THE TIME, I'LL ADMIT I WAS SUFFERING A
BIT FROM GREAT ANXIETY ABOUT MY VIGILANTE
STINT-- AND I GUESS I THOUGHT THIS WAS SOME
SORT OF DYING RETRIBUTION COME TO GET
ME.

"NOW, THOUGH, I SEE IT
MUST'VE BEEN SOMETHING
ELSE-- BUT WHAT?

"ANYWAY, THAT'S
ALL I REMEMBER.
SO HELP ME."

WE KNOW YOU SPOKE THE TRUTH,
JIM HARPER, BECAUSE WHEN MY
MAGIC LASSO HOLDS SOMEONE,
HE CANNOT LIE.

YOU DIDN'T KNOW
THAT, BUT MY FELLOW
ALL-STARS DO, SO
THEY NOW BELIEVE
YOU, TOO

TERRIFIC

THEN I
PRESUME YOU
DON'T MIND IF I
SUP OUT OF
YOUR LITTLE
NOOSE?

LOOK, HARPER--OR
GUARDIAN, IF YOU
PREFER--YOU CAN'T
BE AKE US FOR NOT
TAKING ANY CHANCES
WITH SOMEONE WHO
TRIED TO KILL US,
HALF AN HOUR
AGO

THERE ARE A LOT
OF PEOPLE WHO'D BE
EVEN JOUDER
ABOUT SOMETHING
LIKE THAT

SORRY, LANTERN... YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE

GUESS I'M A BIT
TOUGHY MYSELF, SINCE
I COULD LOSE MY
BAGGIE FOR WHAT I
DID TONIGHT

WE'RE NOT KIDNAPING YOU, FRIEND.

...AND I FOR ONE
AM BETTING YOU'LL
DO A LOT OF GOOD
IN SUICIDE SLUM
BEFORE YOU HANG
UP EITHER OF YOUR
SHIELDS

RIGHT NOW,
THOUGH,
WE'VE GOT TO
GET TO THE
BOTTOM OF
THAT GLOW
THAT ZAPPED YOU THREE

YEAH! A THING LIKE
THAT IS DANGEROUS.

PERHAPS THERE'S
SOME REASON IT
STRUCK YOU THREE--

-- PEOPLE WITHOUT SPECIAL
POWERS, BUT WITH A COMMON
BACKGROUND OF PHYSICAL
TRAINING.

I WAS THINKING ALONG SIMILAR
LINES, WONDER WOMAN.

EACH OF YOU HAD
TRAINERS WHO WERE
VERY INFLUENTIAL
ON YOU, FOR
ONE THING

I
WONDER?

WE'RE ON THE SAME
WAVE LENGTH,
FLASH

LET'S SEE--I REALLY
HAVEN'T HAD THIS FEELER
RYING ALL THAT LONG--
JUST A YEAR AND A
HALF--

--BUT I THINK, IF YOU THREE WILL
CONCENTRATE ON THE STORIES YOU
JUST TOLD US, MY RAD-PROBE MAY
BE ABLE TO PICK OUT ANY COMMON
THREAD.

IT'S A HUNCH--
A LONG SHOT--

YET, NEXT MOMENT, ATRIAD IMAGES FLASH FOR
FLEETING INSTANTS IN THE SKY ABOVE NEW YORK CITY.

SINCE AL PRATT, TED GRANT, AND JIM HAMMER HAVE NEVER MET BEFORE THE CLOSE-WATCHING JSARS
SEE FEW REAL POINTS OF SIMILARITY BETWEEN THEIR PAST ATHLETIC CAREERS--TILL SUDDENLY A TROD OF
IMAGES POP UP, LIKE SO MANY CHEERRIES IN A SLOT MACHINE--VISIONS OF THE SAME MAN, THOUGH AT
THREE DIFFERENT AGES--

MY PAL AND
TRAINER--
JOE MORRIS!

HEY, THAT'S THE
FACE OF MY COACH
BACK IN COLLEGE--
BEFORE MY ROLKS
WENT BROKE!

MY TRAINER, TOO--
BUT WITH A DIFFERENT
NAME--HE WORKED WITH
ME ON AND OFF FOR
YEARS!

WE--WE NEVER KNEW
WE HAD THE SAME
TRAINER AT DIFFERENT
TIMES--NOT EVEN
NIGHT AND I--
BECAUSE NEITHER
OF US HAPPENED
TO MENTION HIS
NAME.

NOT LIKELY,
CAT-MAN!

JOE MORRIS--OR AMT
MULLASAN, THE NAME
I KNEW HIM UNDER--
HAS GOT TO BE THE
COMMON DENOMINATOR
IN ALL THIS--BUT HOW?

THAT
CAN'T BE JUST
A COINCIDENCE--
CAN IT?

HARPER'S GOT A POINT! GOOD AS HE WAS, THE GUY WE KNEW WAS JUST A JOCK.

HARD TO PICTURE HIM CONJURIN' UP THEM BIG GLOWIN' GLOBES THAT GAVE US SPECIAL POWERS.

LET ALONE HYPNOTIZING US INTO ATTACKING YOU GUYS.

TRUE - BUT YOU MUST ADMIT, HE WAS A MOTIVE.

HOW SO?

HAWWWW... THEY MUST TEACH GOOD ADVISE COURSES ON PARADISE ISLAND, PRINCESS.

BUT THAT STILL DOESN'T TELL US WHY HE DID IT - IF HE DID

TRUE

THINK ABOUT IT, GUARDIAN. JOE MORGAN, ALIAS NAT MILLIGAN, SAW THREE CHANCES FOR FAME AND FORTUNE SLIP THROUGH HIS FINGERS, IN YOU THREE.

FIRST, TED GRANT--ALREADY A PROMISING ATHLETE--HAD TO QUIT COLLEGE BECAUSE OF HIS FATHER'S FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES. LATER, JOE SAW HIM BECOME A CHAMPION.

THEN AL PRATT CHOSE TO FIGHT GLOBE, RATHER THAN CASH IN ON HIS NEWFOUND ABILITIES.

FINALLY, EVEN YOU WALKED OUT ON HIM...

AND THE WAY YOU TELL IT, HE SOUNDED PRETTY BITTER BY THEN!

... SO I SUGGEST WE SPLIT UP RIGHT NOW, AND FIND JOE MORGAN!

EVEN IF HE'S INNOCENT-- AND I HOPE HE IS--HE'S OUR ONLY CLUE IN THIS THING

FOR ALL WE KNOW, THOSE GLOWING BUBBLES MAY PROVE FATAL TO THE NEXT PEOPLE WHO CROSS THEIR PATH!

ANYTHING THAT COULD MAKE ME KEEP UP WITH YOU, WONDER WOMAN, HAS A LOT OF POTENTIAL FOR MENACE. ALL RIGHT

I COULD CHECK OUT THE FARM WHERE WE BOTH LIVED WHILE JOE TRAINED ME. I GUESS.

I'LL LOOK INTO THE GYM WHERE "MILLIGAN" TRAINED HARPER, HERE

AND I REMEMBER THE ADDRESS OF THE TENEMENT WHERE HE LIVED

IF YOU DON'T MIND, WE THREE'LL GO WITH YOU.

JUST ONE QUESTION, FOLKS--IF WE FIND SOMEBODY WHO CAN Gobble UP PEOPLE WITH A BIG GLOWING SPHERE, WHAT DO WE DO WITH HIM?

ANYTHING YOU CAN, FRIEND--

-- ANY-THING YOU CAN!

WOULDN'T MIND HAVING
A FEW *ANGERS* OF THE
ALL-SMARS ALONG ON
THIS LITTLE CAPER.

BUT THEY'VE
ALL GOT MATTERS
OF THEIR OWN
TO TAKE CARE
OF.

"HANDSMAN'S GONE BACK TO
BEING A RYAN CHAPER HALL--
AND *AMMIBARE* TOLD ME IN CON-
FIDENCE SHE'S DECIDED TO JOIN
THE *MARSE* CORPS, AS *SIMBON*
SANDERS.

"LIBERTY BELLE,
JOHNNY GUCK
AND FIREBRAND
FLEW OUT TO THE
WEST COAST--
AND I'VE GOT A
HUNCH AN *ACES*
SPY-NEST OR
TWO WON'T BE
TWO THILLED TO
MEET IT.

"ONLY HOURS AGO, I
LEARNED *RODENTMAN'S* UP
TO HIS OWN TRYING TO
KEEP SOME UNSCRUPULOUS
LAWYER FROM GETTING
HIM MELTED DOWN FOR
SCRAP.

"--AND *COMMANDER STEEL*
RETAINED TO NEW YORK AFTER
TWO YEARS TO FIND HIS EX-
FANCEE MARRIED, AND HIS
FORMER SCIENTIFIC MENTOR
DEAD.

HOPE THE *SHINING*
ARMS'N'S FARKS
BETTER BACK IN
HIS NATIVE ENGLAND
AS CHURCHILL'S
BODYGUARD.

"--BUT THE REST OF
US -- JUST HAVE TO MIDDLE
THROUGH HERE!"

TRAGEDY IN TRIPPLICATE

THERE'S THE MOLE WHERE 'MATT MULLIGAN' WED LAST TIME I SAW HIM FLASH

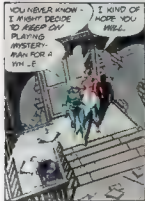
ONE THING KEEPS WEIGHING ON MY MIND, THOUGH

I SAW HIM OFF AND ON FOR YEARS-- BUT HE NEVER TOLD ME HE WAS REALLY JOE MORSAW

YOU'D THINK HE'D HAVE WANTED ME TO KNOW HE HAD HELPED TRAIN TED GRANT IN COLLEGE

WHEN WE LEARN THE ANSWER TO THAT HARDER, MAYBE HE'LL KNOW HIS CONNECTION WITH THAT BLOWING SPHERE THAT BURNISHED YOU THREE

HOPE SO BUT MAKE IT SUREDAN WHILE I'M IN THIS GARB OKAY



YOU NEVER KNOW - I MIGHT DECIDE TO KEEP ON PLAYING MYSTERY-MAN FOR A WH - E

I KIND OF HOPE YOU WILL



LOOKS TO ME LIKE THE FOLKS OF SUICIDE SLUM COULD USE A RAY OF HOPE

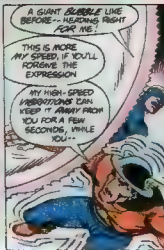
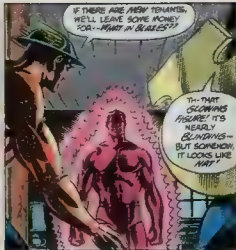
AND A GUY LIKE THE SUREDAN MIGHT JUST GIVE IT TO THEM

MAYBE



ANYWAY, HERE'S THE APARTHOUSE SLUTS

WONDER F HE STILL LIVES HERE





STILL, I CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES THAT--AH!

HARD TO BELIEVE--

BUT HE WENT DOWN LIKE A SITTING DUCK!

THE BUBBLES HE FASHIONED ARE FADING AWAY ALREADY, TOO

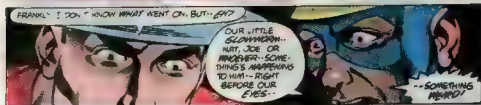
AARRGH



I DON'T KNOW--IT'S ALMOST TOO EASY.

GLAD YOU SAID THAT, FLASH--OR I'D HAVE THOUGHT YOU MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE THIS TIME.

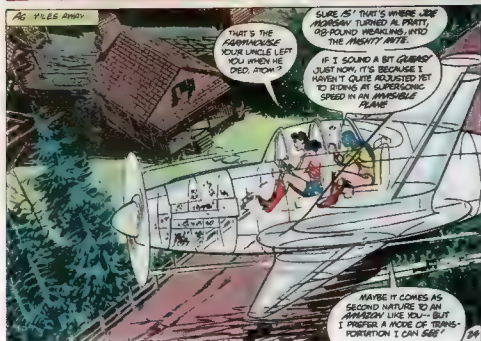
WHICH WOULDN'T EXACTLY HAVE DONE MUCH FOR MY SELF-CONFIDENCE!



FRANKLY I DON'T KNOW WHAT WENT ON, BUT--EH?

OUR LITTLE SLOWMORPH--NAT, JOE OR WHATEVER--SOME THING'S HAPPENING TO HIM--RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES--

--SOMETHING WEIRD!



AG Y'LES AWAY

THAT'S THE FARMHOUSE YOUR UNCLE LEFT YOU WHEN HE DIED, ATOM?

SURE IS! THAT'S WHERE JOE MORGAN TURNED AL PRATT, 218-POUND WEAKLING, INTO THE MIGHTY ATOM.

IF I SOUND A BIT QUEERBY JUST NOW, IT'S BECAUSE I HAVEN'T QUITE ADJUSTED YET TO RIDING AT SUPERSONIC SPEED IN AN IMMENSE PLANE

MAYBE IT COMES AS SECOND NATURE TO AN AMAZON LIKE YOU-- BUT I PREFER A MODE OF TRANSPORTATION I CAN SEE!



I'VE ONLY HAD IT A FEW MONTHS MYSELF, REMEMBER.

ABOUT THE LENGTH OF TIME SINCE I VISITED THE OLD MINNEAPOLIS HERE



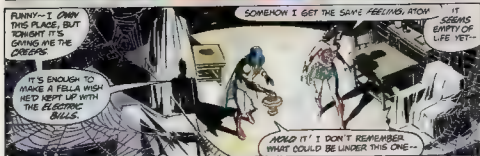
KEY'S STILL WHERE I LEFT IT

MY BUDDY JOE KNEW ABOUT IT TOO...



...AND SOMEBODY'S SURE BEEN HERE LATELY

LOOK AT THOSE HUGE FOOTPRINTS IN THE DUST!



FUNNY--I OWN THIS PLACE, BUT TONIGHT IT'S GIVING ME THE CREEPS

SOMEHOW I GET THE SAME FEELING, ATOM IT SEEMS EMPTY OF LIFE YET--

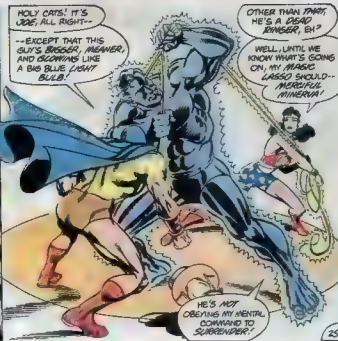
IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE A FELLA WISH HE'D KEPT UP WITH THE ELECTRIC BILLS.

HOLD IT! I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT COULD BE UNDER THIS ONE--



--SHEET!

WELCOME HOME, AL FORT-- TO YOUR OWN DEATH!



HOLY CATS! IT'S JOE, ALL RIGHT--

--EXCEPT THAT THIS GUY'S BIGGER, MEANER, AND GLOWING LIKE A BIG BLUE LIGHT BULB!

OTHER THAN THAT, HE'S A DEAD RINGER, EN?

WELL, UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, MY MISC LASSO SHOULD-- MERCIFUL MINERVA!

HE'S NOT OBEYING MY MENTAL COMMAND TO SURRENDER!

YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME
WE DON'T HAVE OTHER
METHODS AT OUR
DISPOSAL, ARE YOU,
LADY?

UNNN--!

MADDLY!

BUT, MY LASSO'S POWER
SHOULD WORK ON ANYTHING
HUMAN--

--LEAVING
OUR
INCANDESCENT
INTRUDER
PRECISELY
WHERE??

ON THE
FLOOR,
HOPEFULLY!

SLAM

STAND
ASIDE,
WONDER
WOMAN,
OKAY?

JOE'S MY FRIEND--
AND IF THIS IS
JOE, OR WAS--

YOU
DWARF-SIZE
FOOL! I
SHALL--

--I'M THE GUY WHO
OUGHT TO TAKE HIM IN!

YOU GOT HIM--
BUT HE DIDN'T
PUT UP MUCH OF
A FIGHT, DID
HE?

I'D LIKE TO SAY
HE DID AND HE
WERE JUST TOO
RUSH FOR
HIM.

... BUT
I'M AFRAID
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

NONE OF THIS MAKES
ANY SENSE! IF ONLY--
ALAN?

GREAT HERO

WHOEVER--
WHATEVER WE'VE
CAUGHT-- IT'S
CHANGING
SOMEHOW--!

ONCE MORE OUR SCENE SHIFTS TO A STREET IN MANHATTAN WHICH, ALREADY IN 1942, HAD SEEN BETTER DAYS.

THAT THE PLACE WILDCAT?

YEAH, SINCE
WE DIDN'T FIND
ANYTHING OUTTA
ORDER AT
BARSTOW'S--

--WE MIGHT AS
WELL TRY THE
JOINT WHERE I
FIRST WORKED
OUT WITH SOKKER
SMITH

JOE MORGAN
CAME BY THERE TO
SEE ME A COUPLE OF
TIMES, BACK THEN--
JUST TO KID AROUND.
I THOUGHT

WILLIAMS
GUM! RIGHT UP
THERE WITH
STILLMAN'S,
IN PRICE-
FIGHTING
ANNUALS!

A LOT OF GREAT
BOOGERS CAME
OUT OF THIS
HOLE

YER JUST
TRYIN' TO
BUTTER ME
UP, LANTERN

NOT REALLY

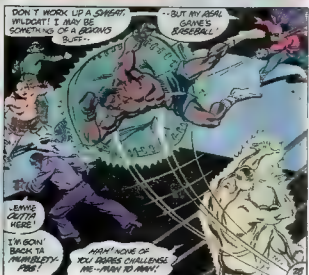
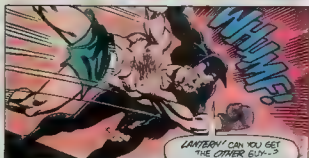
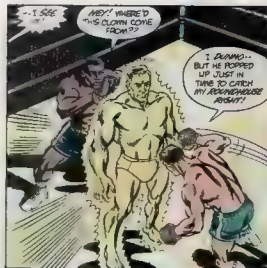
THEY MAY LACK A
BIT OF POLISH YET

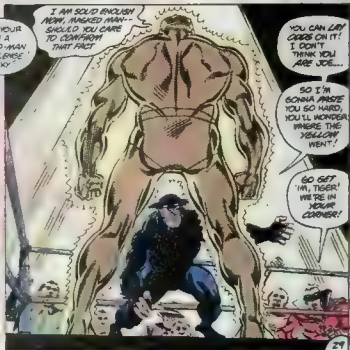
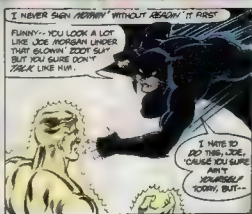
BUT THEY'RE
SURE A
DEDICATED
BUNCH

CHECK NOBODY'S
EVEN EYEBALLED
US--AND WE'RE
DOWNRIGHT
COLORFUL

STILL, LOOKS LIKE
WE STRUCK OUT
ON-- LHM ON!

I
SEE
IT--





THEN YOU BETTER
SHOOT, 'CAUSE
THAT'S JUST WHERE
I AIM TO **SMACK**
THIS--

WELL, HADDAYA KNOW!
ONE MEASLY SUNDAY PUNCH,
AND IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S
DOWN FOR THE COUNT!

GOOD GORY!! YOU MUST'VE REALLY
GLOOBERED HIM!

HE'S EVEN
LOSING THAT
GOLDEN
SLOW--

--AND HE'S
CHARMSING--!

YEAH, THAT'S
JOE MORGAN
HE CHANGED INTO
ALL RIGHT,
LANTERN

BUT-- JOE AS HE
LOOKED BACK WHEN
I WAS IN
COLLEGE.

THEN WE'LL
RENDEZVOUS
WITH THE
OTHERS, AS
AGREED, AT
MADISON SQUARE
GARDEN.

ARRRH--!

NOTHING DOING HERE
TONIGHT, SO WE SHOULD
HAVE SOME **PRIVACY**
WHILE WE-- **WHAIT**
IN BLAZES?

AM I
GOING
BATTY?

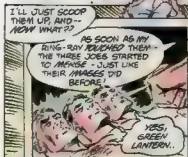
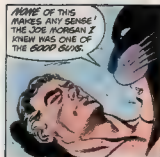
IF YOU ARE,
THEY BETTER
LOCK US
BOTH UP

THERE'S TWO
MORE "JOE MORGANS"
DOWN THERE!

WE SUSPECTED
THAT, IF WE BEAT OUR
FOES SO EASILY,
YOU TWO WOULDN'T
HAVE ANY PROBLEMS

EXCEPT THE SAME
ONE WE ALL HAVE--
WHICH IS FINDING
OUT WHAT THE **HECKS**
GOING ON AROUND
HERE!

SOMEHOW,
ATOM, I'VE A HUNCH
WE'RE ALL GOING
TO FIND OUT!



AND NOW, IN SELF-DEFENSE AS MUCH AS ANYTHING ELSE, SIX COORDINATED BUT CONFUSED STALWARTS RUSH THE GARGANTUAN FIGURE--PITTING SPEED AND MUSCLE AND AERIAL SKILLS AGAINST A LIVING MOUNTAIN OF DAMAGING POWER--

"--ALL TO NO AVEIL!"

"A-AMAZING!
WE'RE HITTING HIM WITH
ALL WE'VE GOT--AND
HE'S BARELY
FLINCHING!"

BUT WE
GOTTA KEEP
TRYING--
FOR JOE'S
SAKE, AS
MUCH AS
OUR OWN!

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOU,
JOE?

IF ANY
PART OF YOU IS
STILL ALIVE
IN THERE--STILL
HUMAN--

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOU??

I'M NOT
SURE IT *IS* JOE
MORGAN WE'RE
FIGHTING,
ALL-STAR

NOT ONLY IS MY
MAGIC LASSO
STILL NOT FORCING
HIM TO
SURRENDER--

--BUT I'M
GETTING STRANGE
EMANATIONS THROUGH
IT--SENSATIONS OF
PURE, UNRELIEVED
EVIL--

--AN EVIL FAR
GREATER, MORE
POWERFUL, THAN
ANY I HAVE EVER FELT
BEFORE!



THEN YOUR SENSES
SERVE YOU WELL,
WOMAN--

UNNNH--!



FOR
I AM
PAIN!

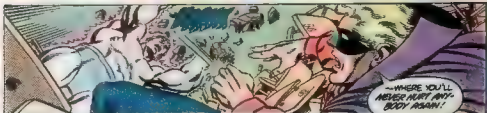


CALL ME
BY THAT
NAME--

--FOR I HAVE
NO OTHER!

IT DOESN'T
MATTER--
WHAT WE
CALL YOU--
MONSTER--

--AS LONG AS
WE PUT YOU
AWAY--

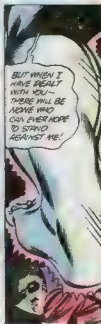


--WHERE YOU'LL
NEVER HURT ANY-
BODY AGAIN!



YOU SPEAK BRAVELY--
YOU WHO ARE THE ONE
I'DE ABOVE ALL I FIRST
NEEDED--

--AND
NOW MUST
DEFEAT!



BUT WHEN I
HAVE DEALT
WITH YOU--
THERE WILL BE
NONE WHO
CAN EVER HOPE
TO STAND
AGAINST ME!



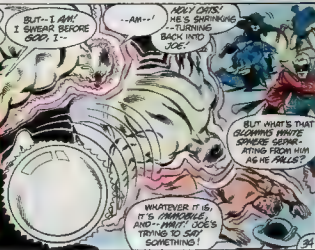
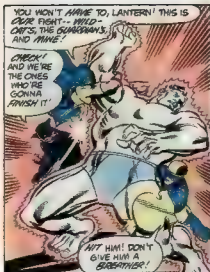
FEEL NOW, GREEN
LANTERN, THE POWER
OF EVIL!!!

WE GOT
HIM, GUYS!

JUST IN
TIME, TOO

YEAH! HE
WAS GETTING
SET TO LAY THE
LANTERN OPEN
LIKE LAST HALLO-
WEEN'S PLUNKIN'!

THANKS-- GUYS! JUST
WISH-- I HADN'T GOT
THE STIFFNESS--
KNOCKED OUT OF ME!
TOO HEAVY TO--



THEN, FROM THE LIPS OF AN OBVIOUSLY DYING MAN, THERE FLOWS FORTH A TRAIL WHICH WOULD BE BEYOND BELIEF... IF NOT FOR THE EVIDENCE OF THE FIRST FEW HOURS.

YEAH, I... I'M JOE MORGAN, ALL RIGHT... AND I GUESS I WAS NOT MILLIGAN, TOO OFF AND ON.

I MUST'VE HAD A SPLIT PERSONALITY FOR YEARS... BUT I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE IT TO THOSE PSYCHIATRIST TYPES TO TELL YOU WHY.

FIRST I'D THOUGHT ZED GRANT WAS MY TICKET TO EASY STREET... THEN AL FORTY. THEN HARPER. BUT ONE BY ONE, THEY ALL LET ME DOWN!

ALL I KNOW IS, SOMETHING CLICKED INSIDE ME, A FEW MONTHS BACK WHEN JIM HARPER WALKED OUT ON ME... TO BECOME JUST A COP POUNDING A BEAT IN SUICIDE SLUM.

SO SAYING I WAS BITTER, EARLIER TONIGHT... IS LIKE CALLING THE QUEEN MARY A ROW BOAT.

THAT'S WHEN THIS SLOWING WHITE BALL APPEARED, LIKE OUT OF NOWHERE-- GRABBED HOLD OF MY HAND!

AND, SO HELP ME-- IT WAS LIKE I COULD HEAR THE THING THINKING--EVEN TALKING TO ME!

IT TOLD ME THE THREE GUYS I'D TRAINED WERE MASKED HEROES NOW-- EVEN TOLD ME WHICH ONES THEY WERE--

--AND IT OFFERED ME THE CHANCE TO GET EVEN WITH THEM-- IF I'D SURRENDER MY BODY TO IT-- JUST FOR THE NIGHT, THE VOICE SAID.

I WISH I COULD SAY I WENT ALONG JUST BECAUSE I THOUGHT I WAS DREAMING-- BUT THAT AIN'T IT.

I GAVE IN BECAUSE ALL THE GOOD IN MY SOUL DIED WHEN HARPER WALKED OUT ON ME-- AND THIS THING COULD TELL THAT SOMEHOW.

"I KNEW IT WAS *EVIL*-- HUNDRED-
PROOF EVIL, AND NOT MUCH
ELSE-- BUT STILL I WENT ALONG.

"WHEN A GUY'S
REACHED BOTTOM,
I GUESS HE'LL
SELL HIS SOUL--
FOR A SHOT AT
REVENGE."

"DON'T RECALL MUCH ELSE--
EXCEPT THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN
THREE MORE GLOBES FLEW
OUT OF THE FIRST-- EACH ONE
A DIFFERENT COLOR--

"--AND I COULD
SENSE THEY'D
TACK DOWN
ORRAT AND GRANT
AND HARPER, NO
MATTER WHERE
THEY WERE."

"THEY'D JUST
NEEDED-- A
MEDIUM, I GUESS
YOU'D CALL IT--
A MAN WHO BELIEVES
THEY COULD GET
THROUGH

"A LITTLE WHILE LATER, I FELT MYSELF
SPLITTING INTO THREE
DIFFERENT GUYS TOO--

"THAT'S
WHEN I
FINALLY
TRIED TO FIGHT
BACK-- BUT IT
WAS WAY TOO
LATE--

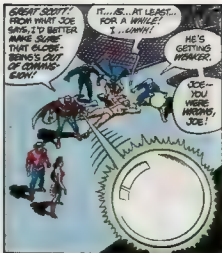
"--EACH ONE STRONGER
THAN JOE MORGAN'D BEEN--
BUT NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO
BEAT TWO ALL-STARS!"

"--AND I HAD TO WATCH
LIKE SOMEBODY STRAPPED
DOWN IN A MOVIE THEATRE,
WHILE YOU HEROS FOUGHT
THE THREE 'JOE MORGANS'!"

"A PART OF ME, EVEN THEN,
WAS GLAD WHEN YOU WON--
BUT NOW I SEE IT WAS ALL
PART OF THAT THING'S
SCHEME."

IT WAS AFTER YOU,
GREEN LANTERN! I DON'T
KNOW WHY, BUT IT
NEEDED YOU TO BRING
THOSE THREE 'JOE
MORGANS' TOGETHER--

-- AND WHEN YOU DID,
THEY MERGED INTO
WHAT IT REALLY
WANTED TO BE ALL
ALONG, THE SECOND
THAT RAY FROM YOUR
ARMS HIT THEM!"



GREAT SCOTT! FROM WHAT JOE SAYS, I'D BETTER MAKE SURE THAT GLOBE-BEING'S OUT OF COMMISSION!

IT... IS... AT LEAST... FOR A WHILE! I... UMMH!

HE'S GETTING WEAKER.

JOE-- YOU WERE WEAKENING, JOE!



THAT THING MAY HAVE FOUND YOUR WEAKNESS-- BUT YOU FOUGHT BACK! YOU SAVED ALL OUR HIDES-- MAYBE EVEN THE WORLD!

YEAH, I. I GUESS I DID, AT THAT...

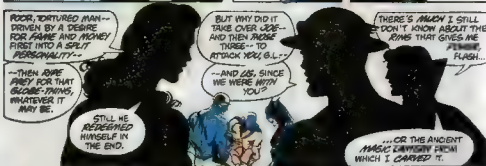


...AND MAYBE... EVERY TIME ONE OF YOU THREE GUNS... KEEPS SOMETHING BAD FROM HAPPENING TO SOMEBODY...

IT WASN'T, JOE! IT--

...MAYBE JOE MORGAN'S LIFE WASN'T ALL A WASTE... AFTER ALL...

HE CAN'T HEAR YOU, FLASH.



POOR, TORTURED MAN-- DRIVEN BY A DESIRE FOR FAME AND MONEY FIRST INTO A SPLIT PERSONALITY--

--THEN RISE AWAY FOR THAT GLOBE-THING, WHATEVER IT MAY BE.

STILL HE REDEEMED HIMSELF IN THE END.

BUT WHY DID IT TAKE OVER JOE-- AND THEN MAKE THREE-- TO ATTACK YOU, G.L.--

--AND US, SINCE WE WERE WITH YOU?

THERE'S MUCH I STILL DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE RINGS THAT GIVES ME FLASH...

...OR THE ANCIENT MAGIC ENLIGHTENED FROM WHICH I CARRIED IT.



WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT THAT GLOBE-THING'S ALIVE-- AND INDESCRIBABLY EVIL--

--AND THERE'S ENOUGH EVIL ABOARD ON EARTH THESE DAYS WITHOUT IMPORTING ANY MORE.



SO I'LL SWALLOW MY CURIOSITY, AND SEND IT OFF INTO SPACE-- HOPEFULLY FOR ALL TIME--



AND IF, BY SOME CHANCE, I EVER ENCOUNTER IT AGAIN-- ON THIS WORLD, OR ANOTHER--

--I JUST HOPE I'LL BE READY FOR IT--



--OR ELSE THAT THE ALL-STAR SQUADRON IS!

AMEN TO THAT!

Prologue:

EONS AGO, THE OANS - MIGHTY BENEFICENT BEINGS OF A DISTANT STAR - PURGED THEMSELVES OF ALL EVIL SO THEY MIGHT BECOME THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY!

FROM THAT DAY FORWARD THEY WERE GOOD

YET, THE LIVING EVIL PURGED FROM THE OANS' HEARTS AND MINDS COULD ONLY BE CONTAINED, NOT DESTROYED.

AND IT HAD TO GO SOMEWHERE

SEE GREEN LANTERN # 40! --LEN

... AND WHERE IT WENT WAS INTO A GLOWING WHITE SPHERE THAT THROBBED AND PULSED WITH MALEVOLENT LIFE

WE MUST SEND THIS EVIL GLOBE-BEING TO ANOTHER UNIVERSE... SO EVEN WE MAY NEVER BE TEMPTED BY THE POWER IT MANIFESTS.

PERHAPS THAT SAME ALTERNATE COSMOS WHERE WE SENT ALL THE MAGIC WE WISHED TO EXPEL FROM OUR UNIVERSE OF SCIENCE. #

SEE GL # 12...L

AYE! FOR WE KNOW A CHAMPION WILL ARISE THERE ONE DAY.

UTILIZING THAT VERY MAGICAL POWER WE OURSELVES SCORRY.

AS A PRECAUTION, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT, IF EVER THE GLOBE-BEING ATTEMPTS TO ACT, IT WILL KEEP SPLITTING INTO THREE MEAGER PARTS.

THE SAME RATE WILL BEFALL ALSO ANY LIVING CREATURE IT MANAGES TO POSSESS, BY FORCE OF ITS WILL.

AND ONLY THE POWER OF THE MAGIC WE EXPELLED COULD EVER WIELD THOSE PARTS TOGETHER AGAIN-- INTO ONE ALL-POWERFUL FORCE!

SENDING IT THERE IS A RISK, OF COURSE--FOR SHOULD THAT OTHER WORLD'S CHAMPION FALL--

--THEN EVIL BEYOND MEASURE WILL HAVE BEEN UNLEASHED UPON THAT ALTERNATE COSMOS-- FOR ALL TIME!

BUT IF THAT CHAMPION SUCCEEDS, THEN INDEED SHALL HE BE TRULY WORTHY TO BE CALLED-- A GREEN LANTERN!

AND SO THE FATE DESTINIES OF ANCIENT EVIL AND OF EARTH-TWO'S EMERALD GLADIATOR WERE INTER-TWINED FOREVER IN THAT LONG-AGO DAY... YEARS BEFORE ALAN (GL) SCOTT WAS EVEN BORN, AND MORE YEARS YET BEFORE HE LEARNED, IN 1979, THE SECRET OF HIS ORIGIN...!

FILE

ALL-STAR SQUADRON FACT FILE

SCRIPT: ROY THOMAS
ART: RICH BUCKLER
& JERRY ORDWAY

Wonder Woman OF EARTH-TWO



Name: WONDER WOMAN (of Earth-Two)

Alter Ego: Diana Prince (though in reality she is Princess Diana of Paradise Island)

First Golden-Age Appearance: ALL-STAR COMICS #8, Dec.-Jan. '41-'42, followed at once by her debut in SENSATION COMICS #1

Origin: She is the daughter of Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons—and came to Man's World originally to help against the Axis powers.

Special Note: Along with Superman and Batman, Wonder Woman is the only super heroine to have her own comic-magazine continuously since World War Two.

ALL-STAR SQUADRON

FACT FILE

The FLASH

OF EARTH-TWO

Name: THE FLASH (of Earth-Two)
Alter Ego: Jay Garrick, police
scientist.
First Golden-Age Appearance:
FLASH COMICS #1, for
January 1940.
Last Golden-Age Solo Appearance:
FLASH COMICS #104,
1949.



Origin: Accidentally inhaling the potent fumes of an Earth-Two compound called "Hard Water," Garrick gained super-speed powers.

Powers: The Fastest Man Alive—though Superman and Johnny Quick might occasionally dispute that point.

Special Note: Served as first chairman of the JSA.

ALL-STAR SQUADRON

FACT FILE

GREEN LANTERN

OF EARTH TWO



ALL-STAR SQUADRON FACT FILE

Name: THE GREEN LANTERN (of Earth-Two)

Alter Ego: Alan Scott, engineer—and later, radio announcer.

First Golden-Age Appearance: ALL-AMERICAN COMICS #16, 1940.

Last Golden-Age Solo Appearance: GREEN LANTERN #38, 1948.

Origin: Surviving a disastrous train wreck, Alan Scott discovered a glowing green lantern from which he made a ring with miraculous powers.

Powers: GL's ring originally gave him power over metals, which gradually grew to include power over anything except wooden objects—as long as the ring was touched to the magic lantern once every 24 hours.

Special Note: He was the second chairman of the Justice Society, though he served for only one full issue of ALL-STAR COMICS.

ALL STAR SQUADRON FACT FILE THE GUARDIAN

Name: THE GUARDIAN
Alter Ego: Jim Harper, police-
man.

Golden Age Appearance:
STAR-SPANGLED
COMICS #7-57, 59-
63.

Origin: Built up by winged
crooks when off-duty,
Harper went into su-
percaricature action as
the costumed Guardian.

Powers: No special ones, be-
yond emotional affec-
tion ability.

Special Note: The Guardian
never hid his "own"
features, appearing
from first to last as a
supporting star in "The
Newboy Legion"—to
whom, as Jim Harper,
he acted as a loyal
guardian as well.



VERY
ORDINARY
1932